UNITED EVANGELICAL Action

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JANUARY 1, 1957

VOICE OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

- Shall Freedom of Religion Be Preserved in the USA?
- Dr. Murch's Review of The Evangelical Year

OFFICIAL NAE ORGAN

Readers Say—

Science and Civilization

To the Editor:

My profound appreciation for your editorial on "Godless Sociology" (*Action*, November 15). We need more thoughtful articles on the very serious situation which confronts us in American education. In its larger aspects it is evident that our whole scientific civilization must perish unless redeemed by Christian motivation and guided by Christian criteria. The greater the success of science, the more imperative is the need for Christian control.

I was greatly moved by an address by Bishop Ensley before the World Methodist Conference last summer. He said science has not "invalidated the logic of faith" but "created an atmosphere in the world which makes the Christian enterprise difficult."

"We need no longer feel that science is an army arrayed against Christianity," the bishop said. "It is a subtler foe, a fifth column, a psychology which pervades the atmosphere which religious men breathe and impairs their vigor."

The Bishop asserted that religion has need of science but he warned, "We must not forget that every gift of science can be used to further evil. . . . Science can supply us with facts and tools but it is dumb as to the purposes to which they should be applied."

He also noted that science was "helpless" to meet the needs of the human spirit for forgiveness, consolation and hunger to understand the meaning of life. He said, "We can best exploit the opportunity the age affords by affirming the sufficiency of Christ to satisfy the needs which science cannot meet. Christ majors in the very matters which science omits. If we can make real the salvation which the Christian religion assures, we do not have to worry—even in a scientific age—about saving it."

ARTHUR ROSS

Chicago, Ill.

Sociology Again

To the Editor:

Your editorial in the November 15 issue of *Action* entitled "Godless Sociology" was excellent. You will not have many sociologists say so, but that will be for two reasons. Most of them will not see the editorial. The second reason will be that most of them will not agree with your statement.

Someone has explored this area of shifting value judgments of which you speak. It is suggested that one of the prime forces behind the increase in delinquent behavior (juvenile and adult) has resulted from the teaching that there are no real values. As the sociologist would say, "morals are a matter of mores, and as mores, they change, perhaps slowly, but they do change."

I could write a small book on this business. Sometimes I tell my classes, sociology is a humanistic attempt to explain the origin, nature, purpose and goal of man. The professional sociologist even will try to shape that goal.

There is, as you intimate, much in sociology that is useable for Christian believers. Where the sociologist has stayed scientific and has discovered valid trends, tendencies and facts about group relationships, he contributes much. This contribution is felt in many areas: church organization, neighborhood analysis, marriage and family counseling, future planning by churches in expansion programs and so on. We need men of this type.

ROBERT L. WENDT

Winston-Salem, N. C.

"Of Inestimable Value"

To the Editor:

God bless you in the great work you are doing. The editorial, "Coexistence with Communism" (*Action*, November 1) is of inestimable value for my own preaching as I am sure it will be for others. Thanks a million!

HYMAN APPELMAN

Kansas City, Mo.

Fine MCA Record

To the Editor:

In reading your fine December 1 issue of *Action* magazine, I noticed on page 11, under "Inter Church" activities, that the contributions of The Missionary Church Association were not recorded in the record list given for 1955. Our denomination set a new goal for giving in 1955 with a per member giving of $154.10. This would have placed the Missionary Church Association fifth on your list of denominations.

VERNON J. PETERSON

Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Who is Confused?

To the Editor:

Your editorial, Dec. 1, on the national election is confusing to say the least. Are we now to believe that because both the conservatives and the liberals of both the Democrat and the Republican parties won—that now all will be well?

Presumably the editorial wished to convey the notion that President Eisenhower is a conservative. When I read such editorials I become all the more convinced that preachers had better stick to their job of preaching the Gospel. Let us apply Gospel teachings to all our problems instead of advocating and falling in line with socialistic measures already on the nation's law books.

When we see how ministers, like all others, are applying for socialistic social security "benefits," we wonder what power they still have left to condemn socialism in its origin, growth and final world tyrannical dictatorship.

HAROLD TILMA

Grand Rapids, Mich.

FRONT PAGE PHOTO—Apropos of Billy Graham's eight-week evangelistic crusade in New York City next May, we reproduce Harry Anderson's new painting, "Christ of the City." The original hangs in the new million-dollar center of the Seventh-day Adventists in Times Square. Literally millions of Christians are praying for the blessing of God on the Graham meetings.— *RNS Photo.*

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Action

United Evangelical Action

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111 East Fourth St.
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JAMES DE FOREST MURCH
Editor

VERDA BLOOMHUFF
Office Editor

NAE STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. **We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative word of God.**
2. **We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**
3. **We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.**
4. **We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.**
5. **We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.**
6. **We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.**
7. **We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

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A radio message broadcast nationwide on the Mutual Network

SHALL FREEDOM OF RELIGION BE PRESERVED in the USA?

By PETER ELDERSVELD

Minister-Director, "Back-to-God Hour" of the Christian Reformed Church

IF THE Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches has its way, this program will soon be off the air. And so will many others; in fact, most of those that present the old gospel of salvation by grace will then go off the air, including those that have become so well-known over the years, with millions of listeners all over the United States and Canada, and even throughout the world.

You see, this Commission of the National Council of Churches has served notice on all radio and television stations and networks in this country that it is absolutely opposed to the sale of broadcasting time for any religious programs whatsoever, and it is doing everything within its power to prevent them from selling time to those who sponsor and pay for such programs. Its official policy is that the stations and networks should give free time to the organized bodies that represent the three major faith groups, Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish— the largest one of which is the National Council of Churches. And the idea is that these representative bodies, and they alone, should provide all religious programs broadcast over the air waves, on free time.

That would mean that if your church, like mine, is not a member of one of these representative bodies, and has good reasons of conscience and conviction for not joining them, it would not be permitted to share in the privilege of broadcasting at all, not even if it is willing to pay for that privilege. All facilities of radio and television would then be closed to anyone who wanted to buy time on them for broadcasting or telecasting the gospel of Jesus Christ!

Now it is only fair to say that one of the reasons for this strange attitude on the part of the National Council leaders is indeed a good one. Among other things, they are trying to combat the evil of religious racketeering in radio and television. Some of the broadcasters who buy time for religious programs have abused the privilege. They have made a profitable business out of pleading for gifts to help pay the cost of broadcasting, and they exploit their unsuspecting listeners with all manner of dubious devices which are designed to bring in lots of money, much more than they actually need. *Time* magazine recently called them "religious hucksters" who "peddle their pietism" by "passing the plate" over the air. Nothing could be more disgraceful to the cause of Christianity, and more dangerous to its future in radio and television. Something should be done to stop it.

However, that does not justify the highhanded policy of the National Council's Broadcasting and Film Commission. It may be true that there would be no such racketeers if there were no broadcasting time for sale to religious groups, but neither would there be any real freedom of religion any more in the radio and television world. The fact that some abuse the privilege of buying time for broadcasting the gospel is no reason for denying the privilege to others who are using it honorably to the glory of God and the salvation of men. One finds it hard to believe that a church group would actually advocate anything like that. This is a plain case of discrimination against religious minorities—and, if you please, by the same religious leaders who have so much to say about other kinds of discrimination, such as that between races. To say the least, they are awkwardly inconsistent.

One cannot help wondering whether the National Council is actually willing to go through with this thing and to accept the responsibility for what would happen. Does it realize how many of the most reputable and most popular religious broadcasts would become the innocent victims of this purge? Some of them are the oldest programs on the air, with a record of Christian service second to none. Many of them have won high praise from experts in the field of broadcasting. Moreover, they have a long and distinguished record for proclaiming the great fundamentals of our Christian heritage as they are taught in the time-honored creeds of our churches, such as the virgin birth of Christ, His deity, His vicarious death for sinners, His physical resurrection, His second coming at the end of time. These broadcasts have courageously opposed all attacks upon the Word of God, whether by liberals who deny it or by fanatics who claim to believe it. And they have a tremendous following, the largest audience in religious radio and television. Yes, indeed, they have left their mark upon the public mind. They have been used of God to lead men to eternal salvation in Christ and to let the light of Christian truth shine upon all areas of life. Has the National Council leadership stopped to consider the fact that all such programs would be driven off the air by this policy? And has it considered what that would mean for the cause of the Christian gospel, and how it would look to all the millions of people who listen to these programs, and pray for

them, and pay for them, because they want to hear—and want others to hear —"the old, old story of Jesus and His love"?

Well, only one of the four major networks in this country is now following this policy of refusing to sell time for religious programs. The others have rejected it. And we are deeply grateful for that. But they are being subjected to powerful pressure! And not only they, but the individual stations on the local level are feeling it too. In Canada there is no network time for sale at all for religious programs, and this is due to government regulation. Free time is given to the larger representative bodies, just as this policy dictates. But all the others are limited to whatever time is for sale on independent or unaffiliated stations.

So, you see, the problem of religious freedom in radio and television is a serious one, and especially because it arises primarily from the influence of church leaders themselves, not from forces outside the churches. Democracy is founded upon the freedom of religion. That was one of the basic reasons why our forefathers came here in the first place. And nobody is supposed to interfere with that freedom, least of all the churches themselves. But now we are being told by an official church body that we should not have the freedom to purchase time on radio and television for the spread of the gospel of God's Holy Word! Does that mean that religion itself is violating the freedom of religion? It seems almost incredible, doesn't it?

This whole problem recalls the incident recorded in Luke 4:49, 50: "And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in Thy name and we forbade him, because he followeth not with us. And Jesus said unto him, Forbid him not: for he that is not against us is for us."

Evidently John had something of the tyrant in him. We all do, of course. We find it very difficult to be tolerant of those who disagree with us. But this tyranny becomes especially dangerous when it is found in religious majorities. For then it becomes ruthless in the name of religion. History proves that the worst tyranny of all is religious tyranny. It even dares to obstruct the power of the gospel for the sake of perpetuating its own power. John was not impressed with the fact that this man was actually casting out real devils in Jesus' name—which was certainly a very good thing to do. He would rather see people permanently possessed of the devil than to see someone outside his own group deliver them. But Jesus told him he was all wrong. He rebuked him for his contemptible bigotry, for assuming that he could forbid others to serve the Lord just because they didn't happen to be in his particular group.

Today there are religious forces that would virtually forbid others to cast out devils in Jesus' name because they do not follow the majority. They would deny them the right to use the radio and television facilities in this country. Meanwhile, people are suffering with devils, which have to be cast out. And, oddly enough, the minority has often been more successful at that than the majority. One cannot help asking whether those who would prevent others from casting out devils in Jesus' name really have the power to cast out devils themselves. Bigotry and tyranny are tools of the devil, aren't they? How can Satan cast out Satan?

Isn't that exactly what Jesus told His disciples just before this incident occurred? You recall that they had failed in their effort to cast out a very vexing devil, one that had complete possession of a child whose father had come to them for help. They were absolutely powerless. But then Jesus came and immediately delivered the poor victim from Satan's grip. That should have been a lesson to them, especially when Jesus rebuked them for not having the kind of faith which would give them power over the devils. But instead they began to argue about who would be the greatest among them. That was precisely their trouble. They were always thinking about themselves, about their position and prestige, about their authority over men in an earthly kingdom. That's why they couldn't cast out devils. "And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a child, and set him by Him, and said unto them, "Whosoever shall receive this child in my name receiveth me; and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth Him that sent me: for he that is least among you all, the same shall be great" (Luke 9:47,48).

Then it was that John told Him he had forbidden someone to cast out devils in His name because the man was not of their group. He had forbidden him to do something which the disciples themselves could not do. Maybe that was the motivation behind it. They were all jealous of someone else's power. And jealousy breeds bigotry and tyranny, particularly in the realm of religion. Is that perhaps also the motivation today for suppressing the religious minorities which do not follow the majority? Do they have a spiritual power in their presentation of the gospel which the majority does not have? If so, then suppression will never stop them. For Jesus will always be on the side of those who are really trying to cast out the demons of modern civilization in His name!

It is 439 years ago that Martin Luther posted his 95 theses of protest against the evils in the church of his day, not the least of which was religious tyranny. That was the beginning of a whole series of world-shaking events which we call the Protestant Reformation. It was a day of liberation from legalism, a day of triumph for the truth. It meant persecution and even martyrdom for the Reformers and their followers. But they were willing to pay that price for the privilege of being free to worship God as they chose. And that's how the Protestant church was born.

Today those who are supposed to be the spiritual heirs of the Reformation are guilty of some of the same things against which the Reformers protested. They are now the majority in this country, and they are beginning to use the tyrannical methods which are so often used by the majority, particularly when it is a religious majority. That is certainly a strange turn of events.

The whole concept of liberty under God comes to us out of the Reformation. Even secular historians will admit that. We owe all our freedoms to the liberating power of historic Reformation Christianity, and particularly the freedom of religion. You would expect all Protestants to be the strongest defenders of it, to be more concerned than anyone else about the rights of religious minorities. But evidently many of them have forgotten what their spiritual forefathers had to suffer because they were in the minority in their day. What a change has taken place in 439 years! What do you think the Reformers would say if they could come back to see it?

It has often been said in our time that many of our Protestant churches have departed from the historic Reformation creeds and confessions. They have been accused of forsaking the faith of their fathers. And many of the more outspoken liberals among them have frankly admitted this. In fact, they are proud of it. They consider it a mark of progress on their part. They call it a liberation from the shackles of outworn dogmas. But do you think it is just a coincidence that we are seeing these infringements upon the freedom of religion at the same time that we are seeing this departure from historic Protestantism? No, it is not merely a coincidence. Those two phenomena are related. Only in the measure that we keep our Reformation faith—which is the faith of biblical Christianity down through the ages—can we expect to keep the blessings of liberty which come from it.

When you count all the privileges

(Continued on page 16)

The Evangelical Year

Action Editorial

James DeForest Murch

■ AMERICA IS ENJOYING a renaissance in "religion." For the first time in our history church membership passed the 100,000,000 mark, including Protestant, Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Jewish and cultist groups.

Fifty-eight million might be broadly classified as Protestants. Viewed through the evangelical telescope it is interesting to note that twenty-one million of these are members of basically evangelical groups outside the fellowship of the National Council of Churches. Other millions of evangelicals within NCC denominations would easily bring evangelical strength in America to fifty per cent of the total membership of Protestantism.

It becomes increasingly clear that many of the new church members flocking into the liberal churches have little or no concept of what it means to be a real, born-again Christian. Protestants of the distinctly biblical brand know the Lord, study their Bibles, give liberally of their time and money, and are deeply and zealously concerned with the salvation of the lost at home and abroad.

Evangelical enterprises are growing by leaps and bounds. The latest figures on American Protestant missionary endeavor show that evangelicals in the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, the Interdenominational Foreign Missions Association and independent boards now support over half of all the missionaries on the foreign field. Multiplied thousands are being won to Christ. The darkening shadow of world conflict, the rise of nationalism with its attendant revival of the heathen religions, the growing power of atheistic Communism have quickened interest in getting the Gospel out before it is everlastingly too late.

It is estimated that there are some 400 schools and colleges in the USA that are basically evangelical. Millions of dollars are being poured into these institutions for new buildings and equipment, endowment and extension. The increase in the number of Christian day schools is amazing. Percentage-wise enrollment is growing twice as fast as that of the public schools. The gradual elimination of Bible reading and prayer or of any recognition of distinctly Christian influences is forcing Christian parents to safeguard the future of their children from crass humanism and paganism by setting up distinctly Christian schools all across the nation.

Evangelism had a great year. Visitation evangelism would probably account for the largest results. The more spectacular mass crusades of a score of evangelical evangelists achieved new heights. Billy Graham's visit to the Orient made a tremendous impact for the Gospel and created goodwill toward America. His New York project has caught the imagination of American Protestantism. Literally millions are praying for a great outpouring of the Spirit in this latter-day Babylon.

After fifty years of virtual stagnation there is an almost miraculous revival of evangelical literary activity. New books are pouring from the presses. The more than 100 magazines represented in the Evangelical Press Association are improving content and format. *Christianity Today*, the evangelical challenge to the *Christian Century*, made an auspicious appearance last fall.

The social consciousness of evangelicals showed marked signs of growth. Sociologists and social workers are getting together for conferences and mutual aid. Evangelical Welfare agencies are being formed in the larger cities. Christian labor organizations showed considerable growth. Industry displayed growing interest in Bible distribution and Christian counselling.

Growth of the evangelical Sunday School movement continued at an amazing pace. The headquarters office of the NSSA was expanded. New staff members were added. Closer denominational cooperation was effected. Several new state and regional and metropolitan organizations were set up. Higher standards in educational policy and program were attained. National convention attendance records were broken again.

The threat of "the growing super church" became increasingly serious during the year. The Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches took a strong public position against the sale of radio and television time for religious broadcasting. Since most evangelical broadcasting is on paid time, this was a virtual declaration of intent to eliminate evangelical broadcasting and take over control of Protestant broadcasting privileges. City planning projects all over the nation have seen NCC-related local Councils of Churches usurping all rights to location and approval of new churches in these areas. With the immense profits derived from the sales of the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible and grants from great foundations the NCC is now in position to propagandize its liberal social views and to more largely dominate the thought and life of the nation.

The National Association of Evangelicals, despite its encouraging growth and its increasing prestige, is as yet unable to give adequate representation to the "unvoiced millions" of evangelicals in America. In the radio crisis its National Religious Broadcasters was almost the sole means of dealing with the situation. In the city planning crisis the NAE was the only evangelical group to challenge NCC control at the national level. Yet influential elements in evangelical Protestantism remain outside its orbit.

American laymen showed a new awareness to the threat of the NCC in social and economic fields. Mr. J. Howard Pew of the Sun Oil Company, head of NCC's National Lay Committee, after an earnest effort to clean up socialistic and leftist tendencies, broke with the Council and issued a widely-publicized report on conditions. Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and other laymen's groups are being formed to study conditions within their own communions and take appropriate steps to remedy exisiting evils. This development may lead to greater evangelical cooperation at the inter-church level.

World Evangelical Fellowship took advanced ground in a reorganization program which gave greater autonomy to national and area groups. The American section worked out a more effective relationship with the NAE. New contacts were established in Africa, South America and the West Indies. World vision was greatly enlarged.

Never in our time has there been a more favorable attitude on the part of the masses to biblical Christianity. This situation calls for humility, self-searching, and a re-study of the Word of God. Evangelicals need to pray for deliverance from traditional opinion and for guidance in the presentation of the old Gospel with a fresh and effective approach to the needs of men in this new atomic age. This is our day! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

New Vatican Envoy?

The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus in annual convention in Detroit passed a resolution urging the President to take immediate steps to appoint an ambassador to the Vatican, or at least a personal representative.

Using the trouble in Hungary and the Middle East as a basis, they can be expected to apply much pressure on our President. In fact this resolution may indicate that some political promises have already been extracted to implement this breach of Church-State Separation. We urge our constituents nation-wide to write our President and express concern over this suggestion of a Vatican appointment.

Victory in Spain

For over ten years under the Franco regime it has been all but impossible for evangelicals to get married. The law required that both parties must prove that they had not been baptized in the Roman Church. Since almost every couple had at least one party who was a convert from the Roman Church, they have tried in vain.

On the 13th of November and largely as a result of efforts of the Evangelical Alliance of Spain, General Franco, through the Minister of Justice, ordered a reversion to the old practice of allowing the interested parties to secure civil marriage if they present legal evidence they are no longer Roman Catholic in faith. The local judge must notify the local Roman Catholic ordinary of the request for marriage, and wait thirty days before performing the rite. In case of difficulty in the implementation of this act the interested parties have full access to higher judicial authorities. Now scores of engaged couples will, after years of waiting and praying, be able to set up Christian homes.

Colombian Resume

The Gospel message continues to be silenced in all Colombian mission territories. Over forty churches and several hundred schools are closed. Colombia's Treaty with the USA of 1846 is still violated. On November 13th Father Echeverry of the Barrio Olaya Roman Catholic Church in Bogota led an attack on the evangelical chapel of Barrio Centenario during which time the chapel was stoned, the metal door damaged and further violence was avoided only by the arrival of police.

Bigotry or Blunder?

A nationally-known syndicated columnist recently drew attention to an election situation in Colorado which has been of considerable interest to religious observers.

The case in point is the circulation of unsigned leaflets by a Colorado Republican precinct committeeman, Clarence M. Stafford. The charge of "bigotry" was leveled against this reported action by Stafford on the grounds that the leaflet made an appeal to support nine Protestant candidates who "believe and will support separation of Church and State and will not accept orders or directives from any foreign totalitarian authority."

NAE Office of Affairs, Washington, D. C.
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Not included in the leaflet were the names of several Democrats, including John Carroll, who bears the same name as the first American archbishop and who is married to a Roman Catholic although he himself is not a Catholic. The other Democrats not listed were Roman Catholics.

The day before the national election United States attorney Donald E. Kelley filed information against Stafford for putting anonymous political literature in the mails.

The action against Stafford was based on a portion of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act which prohibits the publication and distribution of political literature anonymously.

In the election Carroll was successful in defeating the Republican candidate Dan Thornton. There was some feeling to the effect that the circulation of the pamphlets and the steps toward persecution of Stafford figured in the upset and caused the voters to demonstrate their resentment of the involvement of "religious bigotry." Keen political analysts doubt this. There was the feeling that the anonymous leaflet had started a legitimate concern for the principle of Separation of Church and State, but that it had been a notable blunder to put them in the mails unsigned.

Athens Church Gets Permit

The oldest Evangelical Church in Greece located at the foot of Mars Hill has just won a notable victory that has already been publicized in a recent issue of this paper. A permit to tear down and rebuild was granted in 1955, and revoked in August 1956 when even the basement was incomplete. Construction continued to finish the basement with a cornerstone laid in September. In the face of a restraining order, construction halted. Now the permit has been reinstated through direct government action without any final decision by the court.

The story behind the scenes is this. On September 28th the NAE requested our government to investigate the facts of the case without protest. The property is of the Greek church, not American but American funds are involved. The inquiry was processed in Athens in our Embassy the middle of October. Suddenly within two weeks and without explanation the Greek government reversed itself and ordered the permit restored in spite of Greek orthodox opposition.

Congress Convenes

The eyes of the Nation turn toward Washington for the convening of the new Congress. Yet in many respects it is a new Congress faced with the same old problems.

One of the old issues which will undoubtedly be given consideration by the new Congress is the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act. Numerous church groups with the notable exception of NAE have been very active in their attempts to batter down the walls of immigration established by the McCarran-Walter Act. The Act also gets heavy cross-fire from numerous population blocks within the United States. The immigration quota system was subjected to full-scale assault in the last few hours of the previous Congress. The provisions for enlargement of the immigration program were tied to a sheepherders bill which was passed by the Senate. The fact that no action was taken in the House was chalked up to "horsetrading" by congressional leaders.

However, the overt attempt by many members of the Senate to overthrow present immigration restrictions was labeled as the "beginning of the end" by one congressional assistant who covers the immigration program.

Another matter still pending before the Senate will be the treaty with Haiti which omits the usual provisions for religious liberty. Many observers feel that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will refuse to take action on the treaty, yet there is always the possibility that this committee could be subjected to pressures toward ratification of the treaty. Evangelicals have felt that it would set a dangerous precedent in that it would pave the way for similar omissions in any treaties to be negotiated with countries such as Spain and Colombia.

Undoubtedly the airlines safty bill generally known as the "Williams Bill" will be brought before this session of Congress. For the most part this issue has been carried by the pilots and stewardesses association, with support from the various temperance groups. The bill would prohibit the service of liquor on commercial airlines. During the last Congress it drew favorable attention from the House side, but failed to get before the Senate for action.

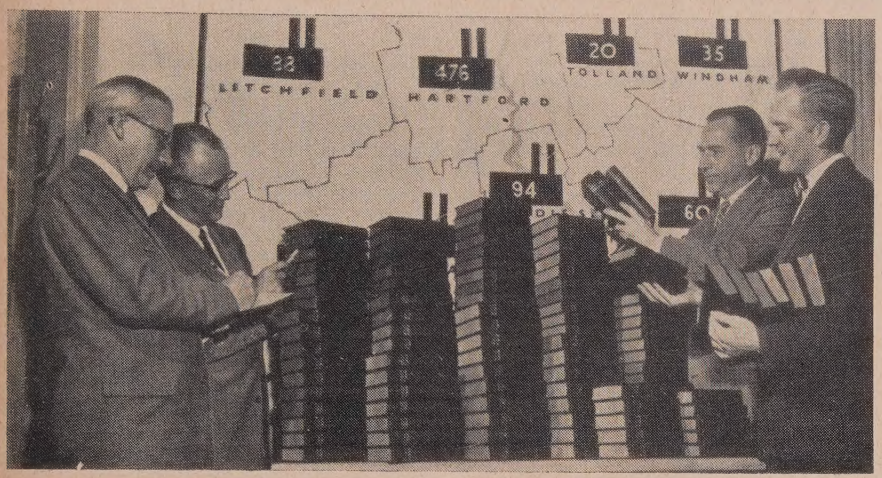
There is reasonable doubt that the new Congress will do much to limit liquor advertising. On several occasions it has held hearings on this issue but the matter has rested there. There is general recognition in temperance circles that it may take years of aggressive action to get Congress to take decisive action.

Yet at the same time Congress has been faced squarely with the question of tremendous increases in traffic deaths and casualties. If Congress should turn its attention toward the tragic rise in traffic death tolls it will have a hard job escaping the involvement of alcohol in this important national issue. It may well be that the greatest advances in national temperance from a legislative standpoint will be gained in this general area.

Other matters bearing on such subjects as juvenile delinquency, narcotics, aid to schools, construction and other similar issues will undoubtedly be in the line-up of interests to be given consideration by the 85th Congress.

Evangelical Newsfront

RNS AND E/P REPORTS UEA CORRESPONDENCE



INDUSTRIAL PLANTS GET BIBLES—Gideon Bibles are being distributed in reception rooms of many Industrial plants in this state under a plan sponsored by the Manufacturers Association of Connecticut. Shown examining some of the Bibles at the association's headquarters here are left to right: Albert S. Redway of New Haven, president of the MAC; Ezra Kihlgren of Hartford, past state president of Gideons International; John Coolidge of West Hartford, treasurer of the MAC and son of former President Calvin Coolidge; and Walter Govertson of Bridgeport, state president of the Gideons. The Bible-in-Industry movement is believed to be the first of its kind in the country.

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United Action

Protestant Seminar On Federal Service

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Public Affairs Office of the National Association of Evangelicals through its Secretary, Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, has announced a new seminar to promote interest in government service (*Action*, December 15, 1956).

When questioned about the seminar, Dr. Taylor stated that most of the executives of some seventy Christian colleges, institutes and seminaries that train the leadership of much of the evangelical Protestant constituency in America have agreed to attend a three-day seminar in the nation's capital February 6-8.

A program is being completed which will bring leaders of the principal sections of government before these educators and student counselors to present the needs, opportunities and necessary preparation for young men and women who wish to dedicate themselves to serve our nation through government service.

Dr. Taylor said, "We hope the educators and counselors of our Christian schools will catch a new vision of the importance of leadership in government, and thus assist in channeling their graduates into government service. These are young men and women with definite moral and ethical convictions who are following in the historic ideals of our republic. These men and women fear God, are loyal to their country and will resist every attack of atheistic Communism."

The seminar is being planned in cooperation with the Commissions on Social Action and Higher Education of the National Association of Evangelicals. A large number of the staff men of the NAE plan to be in the city to secure a better grasp of the problems and opportunities that present themselves through the government.

NEFE New England Prophecy Conference

BOSTON, Mass. — Beginning on March 18 the Fourth Annual Prophecy Conference, sponsored by the New England Fellowship of Evangelicals will be held in several key cities in New England. Dr. Kenneth Wuest of Moody Bible Institute, Dr. Louis Johnson of Dallas Theological Seminary and Dr. Gerald Stover of Niagara Falls, New York will be the speakers. In the past these meetings have attracted many evangelicals for the study of prophetic themes. A large attendance is anticipated this year.

Bragg Heads Midwest NAE Regional Board

CHICAGO.—Rev. Arley L. Bragg has been elected president of the Midwest Regional Board of the National Association of Evangelicals to replace Dr. Arnold C. Schultz of Northern Baptist Seminary. Mr. Bragg is pastor of the First Evangelical Free Church of Chicago. He has been serving as Regional vice-president and is a former secretary of the NAE Board of Administration. Dr. Schultz continues as a member of the regional board. Dr. Louis Rawls, pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Chicago, the new vice-president, becomes the first member of his race to serve on the executive committee of the Region. Reelected as secretary and treasurer respectively, were Rev. Arthur D. Zahniser, pastor of the First Free Methodist Church of Evanston and Rev. William C. Tapper, executive secretary of the Baptist General Conference of America. Howard H. Hamlin, M.D., was appointed by the Board to complete the unexpired term of his pastor, Dr. C. B. Strang, of the First Church of the Nazarene, Chicago.

Radio-TV

Religious Broadcasters In History-making Meet

CINCINNATI.—Outstanding leaders of the radio-television industry and national religious broadcasters of note will speak at the Fourteenth Annual Convention of the National Religious Broadcasters, Inc., in the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C., January 30 and 31.

In what promises to be the largest and most representative gathering in the history of the NRB the chief concern will be for the development of more effective religious broadcasting and telecasting techniques. In closed meetings a new strategy for the preservation of the right to purchase station time for the broadcasting of the Gospel will be discussed, according to NRB President, Dr. James DeForest Murch.

Program headliners include Mr. Harold Fellows, president of the National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters; Mr. Wiley F. Hance, manager of Public Affairs, American Broadcasting Company; Mr. John B. Poor, president of the Mutual Broadcasting System; Mr. Edward Stanley, manager Public Services Division, National Broadcasting Company; Dr. George D. Crothers, di-

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rector Educational and Religious Broadcasting, Columbia Broadcasting System; Mr. John Hayes, president of *Washington Post* Broadcast Division and director of Stations WTOP, Washington, D.C., and WMBR, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mr. Fred Garrigus manager of Organizational Services, National Association of Radio and Television Broadcasters. Hon. George C. McConnaughey, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission; Mr. John Broger, deputy director USA Office of Armed Services Information and Education; and Mr. James C. Moore, religious adviser of The Voice of America, will be among government representatives on the program.

In the religious broadcasting field Dr. Eugene R. Bertermann, executive director of The Lutheran Hour; Dr. Theodore H. Epp, head of The Back to the Bible Hour; Dr. Peter Eldersveld director of The Back to God Hour of the Christian Reformed Church; Dr. Clarence W. Jones, president of the World Radio Missionary Fellowship and director of Station HCJB, "Voice of the Andes," will address the convention.

Special interest in this year's gathering has resulted from the official pronouncement of the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches against the purchase of radio and television time for the broadcasting of religion. Members of the NRB, affected by the active implementation of this policy, broadcast on eighty per cent of the nation's radio and television stations. It is estimated that their annual budgets are in excess of $10,000,000, most of which is spent for broadcasting time.

Attendance upon the sessions of the Washington convention is limited to religious broadcasters and representatives of related agencies. Application for credentials and reservations may be made to National Religious Broadcasters, Inc., 111 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio.

Southern Baptists Plan Television Evangelism

FORT WORTH, Tex.—An unidentified Baptist couple here has given $25,000 to produce a thirty-minute evangelistic TV program under direction of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Paul M. Stevens, commission director, announced the donation. Thirteen half-hour programs, available in color and black and white, portray modern-day versions of Bible parables. Each film is based on Scripture and stresses practical, everyday Christianity. They cost about $25,000 apiece.

Station WTOP-TV in Washington, D. C., recently became the 100th station in the United States to telecast the series, entitled, "This Is the Answer." The commission estimates the programs have reached 45,000,000 viewers.

Mark 25th Anniversary Of Missionary Station

TORONTO, Ont.—The 25th anniversary of radio station HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, "The Voice of the Andes," was celebrated at a rally in People's church here. Dr. Clarence Jones, founder of the station, was the guest of honor.

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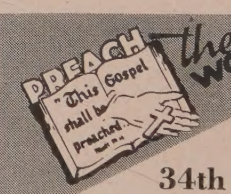

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Denominations

Methodists Gain 131,542 Members

CHICAGO — Membership in The Methodist Church in the United States now stands at 9,444,820, it was announced here. This is a gain of 131,542 over the previous year.

Rev. Albert C. Hoover, director of the denomination's statistical office, reported the figures. He said the total does not include 1,285,116 preparatory members—baptized children and others under instruction but not yet received into full membership.

Church school membership rose to 6,956,576. Last year's figure was 6,811,498. Average attendance at Sunday schools was 3,622,031, compared to last year's average of 3,526,990.

There are 26,909 ministers in the denomination and 39,845 preaching places. The statistical report said church members contributed $413,893,955 for all purposes—an increase of $29,500,000 over a year ago.

Total receipts for benevolences were $58,492,805—a gain of $1,718,744 over the previous year. This included $18,537,163 paid to World Service and Conference benevolences—an increase of $677,945.

Russian Church in USA Breaks Ties With Soviet

NEW YORK—(E/P)—A quiet revolt against the Moscow Patriarchate is going on among Russian Orthodox churches in this country. In the last year four parishes have left the Moscow-affiliated church and joined the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America, a spokesman for the independent denomination reports. A fifth is involved in litigation and others are expected to renounce the authority of Patriarch Alexius of Moscow.

The four parishes that have already left the Moscow fold, apparently unchallenged, are St. John the Baptist in Spring Valley, N. Y.; St. Nicholas in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., St. Valdimir in Lopez, Pa., and St. Michael in Philadelphia. "Several hundred" church members are said to be involved in the switch. The pastor of St. Basil's church, Simpson, Pa., has also renounced his connection with the Moscow Patriarchate. He has the support of a sixty-member congregation, but is being legally opposed by the Moscow

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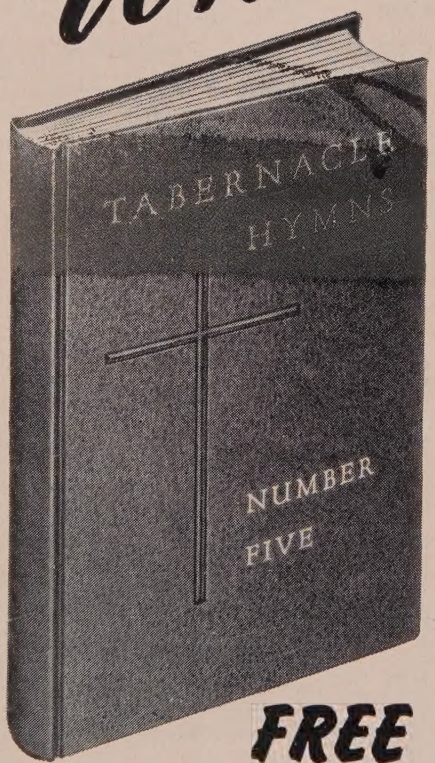

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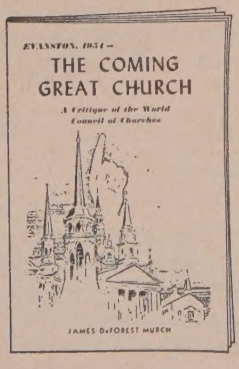

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Patriarchate in the Scranton, Pa., County Court. Another "five or ten" churches are reported to be considering breaking their ties with Moscow also.

The American church became separated in 1924 from the Russian Orthodox Catholic Church, Archdiocese of the Aleutian Islands and North America, which owes allegiance to Moscow. The split was confirmed in 1933, when Russian Orthodox churches were said to have been asked, in effect, to pledge loyalty to the Soviet Government.

At that time many parishes left the Moscow-affiliated church and joined the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America. This body had 750,000 members in 1955.

The Moscow-affiliated church claims forty-six congregations, but this figure is widely disputed as "exaggerated." No membership figure can be obtained.

public affairs

Seek to Break Airline Clergy Fare Stalemate

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(RNS)— Capital Airlines will shortly ask the Civil Aeronautics Board for permission to negotiate with other carriers on a proposed clergy tariff. Purpose of the move is to break a stalemate which has existed since Congress passed legislation last July authorizing reduced plane fares for clergymen.

A spokesman for Capital said such permission is necessary to avoid anti-trust prosecution for conferring with competitors concerning a common, non-competitive passenger tariff.

The Air Transport Association, which represents the nation's major airlines, said after Congress passed the permissive legislation that the airlines would wait for the Civil Aeronautics Board to issue appropriate regulations.

However, the CAB took the position that the legislation was self-explanatory and that it was up to the airlines to take the initiative by filing a proposed amendment to their passenger fares. The CAB would then give its approval or disapproval.

Members of the association discussed the situation at the recent Air Traffic Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada, but could reach no conclusions.

Christian School Growth Result of Ban on Religion

TOLEDO, O.—The current rapid growth of Christian Day schools is due in large part to the ban on religion in public schools, Rev. John A. Root, pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran church, said here in a recent panel discussion on "Religion and the Public School."

"It's not a question of teaching religious doctrine," Mr. Root said, "but rather a question of whether or not the public school teacher has a right to mention religion at all."

The pastor said he was certain it is "possible to teach Christianity, or any other religion, without trying to bring about conversions."

The banning of religion from public education is wrong, he said, since religion "concerns the whole being—

body, mind and soul—and it is not right to confine it to one or two hours a week."

A fellow panelist said it is ridiculous to expect a teacher to teach history without discussing the subject of religion. "There are millions of youngsters who have no connection with any religion whatsoever and there is a greater need for religion at the present time than ever before," he said. "I'm in favor of their getting it through the public schools."

Oppose Change in Trust Fund Tax Rule

WASHINGTON, D. C. —(RNS)— A Baptist official urged the House Ways and Means Committee to reject a proposal by the Treasury Department that would make it more difficult for philanthropists to set up reversionary trust funds to benefit churches, hospitals and colleges.

George L. Shearin, secretary and legal counsel of the endowment department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, told a sub-committee on tax revision that the proposal is contrary to established public policy of encouraging private charitable gifts. He said it would cause hardship to Baptist institutions.

At present, if a donor gives irrevocable control over the income from a reversionary trust to a charitable institution for a period of two years or more this income is tax-exempt during the time of use by the charitable group even though the donor may take back the property given to the trust whenever he wishes.

The Treasury, calling this provision a "loophole" that has been abused, has asked Congress to require that income of the trust be given to charity for a minimum of ten years to qualify for tax exemption.

"There are a few individuals who can and will give up a portion of their income for two, three or possibly five years to help institutional beneficiaries," Mr. Shearin told the subcommittee, "but how many individuals can see their way clearly ahead for ten years?

"In this age of heavy taxes, if a man can afford to give up income for ten years then he can afford to give it up permanently and there is no need for the reversionary provision."

He said that for "practical purposes elimination of the special two-year rule will doom the use of this type of trust in endowment."

education

Linguistics Schools Enroll 323 Students

GLENDALE, Calif.—The 1956 Summer School of Linguistics sponsored by the Wycliffe Bible Translators, Inc., enrolled 323 students in North America. Sessions were held at the University of Oklahoma, the University of North Dakota and Carenport, Canada. Figures are not yet available from WBT branches in London, England and Australia.

Among the enrollees were students who are under appointment from various mission boards, some veteran missionaries and candidates for the Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Plans are already under way for the 1957 schools. Catalogs and further information may be obtained by writing the Summer Institute of Linguistics, Box 870, Glendale 5, California.

Prayer Appeal Made for Lutheran Bible Institute

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—A mail appeal for prayers has launched a fund campaign to finance a new $1,500,000 campus for Lutheran Bible Institute in suburban Golden Valley.

The prayer appeal will be followed by personal solicitation from 5,000 to 6,000 volunteer visitors next May, Rev. Bernt C. Opsal, institute president, announced at the annual meeting of the institute corporation.

The institute is currently located in Minneapolis, near the business district.

Evangelical Theologians Hold First Midwest Meet

CHICAGO.—The first general meeting of the Midwest Section of the Evangelical Theological Society was held at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Chicago, Nov. 23-24, 1956. Limited meetings had been held, starting in 1953; this, however, marked the first gathering for the entire Midwest. Moderators for the sessions were Dr. John E. Luchies, Section chairman, of Wheaton College, and Dr. Martin J. Wyngaarden, vice-chairman, from Calvin Seminary. Thirteen papers were presented on different aspects of theo-

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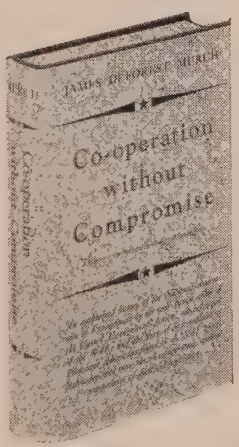

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logical scholarship, with ample and lively discussion following; the devotional messages were marked by reliance on Jesus Christ and His inerrant Word, the Bible; and attendance ran as high as 75 at the various sessions.

Officers elected for 1957, to be approved at the national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in December, were as follows: Chairman, Dr. Gordon H. Clark of Butler University; Vice-chairman, Dr. Robert D. Culver of Wheaton College; Secretary, Dr. Clarence B. Bass of Bethel Seminary. Suggested as possible meeting places for the Section in the spring of 1957 were Minneapolis Minn., and St. Louis, Mo. The decision and arrangements were left in the hands of the newly elected officers. Serving as nominating committee for the 1956 meeting were Dr. Henry Van Til of Calvin College, Mich., chairman; Dr. Kenneth S. Kantzer of Wheaton College, Ill.; and Dr. Warren C. Young of Northern Baptist Seminary.

Social highlight of the meeting was the fellowship banquet, held in the Northern Baptist Seminary dining hall. Dr. Charles W. Koller, president of the host institution, spoke words of welcome. The annual chairman's address was delivered by Dr. Luchies on the theme, "The Ethics of Law and Grace."

Ex-President Hoover Makes Library Grant

NEWBERG, Ore.—"George Fox College now possesses the best library collection of 'Herbert Hoover, the man and his administration,' in the Northwest," states Milo Ross, college president.

President Ross recently visited Hoover at his New York home. The former president of the United States agreed to present the college with copies of all his works which it did not already possess. As a result the college recently received a shipment of Hoover's works from the Hoover Library on War, Reconstruction and Peace, at Stanford University. Included were Hoover's state papers, many of his books, and documents from the Hoover Commission.

Herbert Hoover is a former George Fox College student, and is a member of the Newberg Friends church.

Valparaiso Fire Speeds Plan for New Building

VALPARAISO, Ind. — Insurance funds totaling $300,000 will probably go toward the start of a new classroom and administration building for Indiana's Valparaiso University, according to Dr. O. P. Kretzmann, university president. The school's three-story auditorium building was destroyed by fire in the midnight hours, November 27.

Dr. Kretzmann said the proposed new building has been part of the university's long-range planning, but that it had been put aside for the immediate future.

Valparaiso's new chapel-auditorium is just rising and should be ready for use by Christmas of next year. Dr. Kretzmann said there is very little possibility that construction can be rushed, since builders are already working on a close schedule.

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fices, offices of the business manager and registrar were destroyed along with the 1,008-seat auditorium. Faculty members with offices in the building lost the major portion of their libraries, and the school lost 700 hymnals. Current records, business machines and typewriters were destroyed.

For the time being chapel services are held each day in the gymnasium. For some time the 2,300-student enrollment at Valparaiso has necessitated the running of two chapel periods—one in the now destroyed building and one in Kroencke Hall.

DTS Inaugurates New Workers' Conference

DALLAS, Tex.—In conjunction with the Thomas lectures this year Dallas Seminary inaugurated a Christian workers' Conference which featured members of the faculty in a series of special lectures as an intellectual and spiritual refresher for Dallas alumni and other Christian workers.

Men attended from nine Texas cities outside of Dallas and from Oklahoma, Tennessee and Florida. One series of lectures discussed "Current Theological Issues," presented by President John F. Walvoord, Dr. Charles C. Ryrie and Dr. John A. Witmer, the faculty in the department of Systematic Theology. Rev. Howard G. Hendricks, instructor in Practical Theology, presented a series on "New Techniques in Christian Education." A forum on pastoral problems was directed by Dr. J. Ellwood Evans, Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost, and Dr. Merrill F. Unger.

Dr. Kenneth L. Pike, director of the Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of Oklahoma and professor of linguistics at the University of Michigan, was Thomas lecturer this year.

Inaugurated as an experiment, the Conference proved such a success that Dallas Seminary plans to continue it as an annual feature of its ministry.

WORLD-WIDE

Plan Kirchentag In Soviet Zone

FULDA, Germany—(RNS)—Plans to hold the 1957 German Evangelical Church Day (DEKT) Congress in Erfurt, Soviet Zone, were approved here by the DEKT Presidium. Consent for the rally must be obtained from the East German government.

If permission is given it will be the second time in DEKT history that the Protestant lay congress has been convened in the Soviet Zone. In 1954 it was held in Leipzig, East Germany, drawing more than 400,000 believers from all over Germany.

The DEKT movement, launched in 1949, has developed into one of the outstanding lay movements in world Christianity. A permanent institution within the Evangelical Church in Germany, it seeks to encourage laymen to participate in Church and public affairs. Its annual rallies are highlights of German Protestant Church life.

Lutheran Churches Survive in Hungary

GENEVA, Switzerland.—According to meagre reports received from Budapest by Lutheran World Federation here, church leaders in Hungary con-

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sider the position of the Lutheran Church after the recent fighting as "favorable." The Church is described as having recovered much of its freedom.

The building of the Lutheran church administration in Budapest has been badly damaged, including a large library and archives. The theological hostel, which also housed a seminary for forty theological students, also suffered during the fighting.

After the resignation of the previous church leaders Lajos Vetö, Ladislas Dezsery and others, the congregations were again free to elect their own church leaders. Whether this freedom will continue is problematical. Bishop Lajos Ordass is reported to be alive and well.

MISSIONS

Egyptian Workers Killed Bible College Damaged

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—Unofficial reports from Egypt indicate that at least one Assemblies of God minister and his wife were killed during invasion of Port Said, Rev. Noel Perkin, executive director of the denomination's foreign mission department, has announced.

Believed to be dead are Rev. and Mrs. Ayad Shenouda, national workers of the Egyptian Assemblies of God. No word has been received on whereabouts of three small Shenouda children—five-year-old twins, Winnie and Susan, and Billy, four months old.

Mr. Shenouda was dean of the Port Said Bible School, which was founded three years ago. He also served as secretary of the Egyptian Assemblies of God.

The Assemblies of God Bible School was opened in Port Said three years ago in a four story building located approximately one mile from the Suez Canal. The property had formerly been used by a Swedish missionary group.

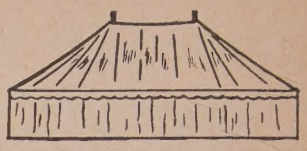
Wycliffe Sends Translators To New Missionary Fields

GLENDALE, Calif. —(E/P)— The Wycliffe Translators are planning to send teams of translators into Papua and the Australian Trust Territory of New Guinea. Three Wycliffe representatives recently spent several weeks surveying the field and conferring with Administration officials about the possibility of making linguistic studies and doing literacy and Bible translation work.

Although the Administration has recently been committed to a heavy English teaching program which would leave little room for use of the vernaculars, the officials were helpful and encouraging, to the extent of recommending a suitable site for a headquarters base.

Wycliffe reports that the territory to be served has more languages without the Scriptures than almost any other comparable area in the world. The latest government language list names 471 languages in Papua and Australian New Guinea, two of which have the whole Bible; ten more have the whole New Testament, and thirty-nine more have only some lesser portion of the Bible. This leaves 420 languages with no part of the Scriptures.

Portable Churches



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Personalia

Harry L. Turner, president of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, is on a deputational ministry to Africa. France, Belgium, Holland and Israel were also included in his itinerary. He expects to return March 27.

Chas H. Woodbridge, professor of Church History at Fuller Theological Seminary, has resigned. Early in March he and Mrs. Woodbridge expect to sail for Europe. Dr. Woodbridge will lecture in European Bible Institute in Paris and then study at Gottingen University in Germany.

George McNeill, executive secretary of the New England Fellowship of Evangelicals, is undertaking a coast-to-coast speaking tour touching twenty cities, in behalf of NEFE's enlarging ministry.

James Z. Nettinga, district secretary for Southern California of the American Bible Society for the past seven years, has been appointed ABS secretary in charge of educational publicity. He is an ordained minister of the Reformed Church.

Robert E. Richards, former pastor of First Church of the Brethren, Long Beach, Calif., again was acclaimed world champion pole vaulter at the 1956 World Olympic Games. He was three times AAU decathlon title winner.

Frank S. Montaldi, long an honored evangelical leader in Buffalo, N. Y., was recently honored in a memorial service in which a new Hammond Organ was presented to Buffalo Bible Institute by the Montaldi family.

James F. Bishop, until recently associated with Oregon State College, has been appointed director of public relations for George Fox College.

Gustav E. Lundberg, pastor of East Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, Mass., has accepted a call to become manager of Baptist Conference Press, Chicago. He succeeds Rev. C. George Ericson, who resigned after a long and faithful service.

David Plank of Pasadena, Calif., has been appointed the nineteenth chaplain of the Assemblies of God in the nation's armed services. He has been assigned to the U. S. Navy. The denomination has 28,000 men in the armed services.

Betty Greene, Missionary Aviation Fellowship pilot, is now on loan to the British MAF and is the only woman pilot granted permission to fly in the Sudan. She flies a twin engine Dragon Rapide from the Sudan base of Malakal. Miss Greene pioneered MAF work in South America soon after the end of World War II. Later she was on loan to the Sudan Interior Mission, completing 1000 hours flying time in Nigeria.

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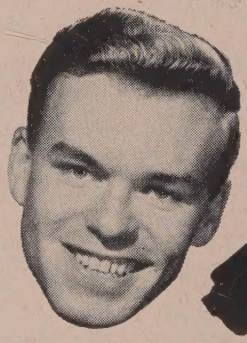

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Freedom of Religion

(Continued from page 4)

which you enjoy in a free nation, and especially the privilege of religious freedom, stop to think for a moment about the high price that was paid by the people of the Reformation to give you these great privileges. And ask yourself: how much of their faith do I have? Would I be willing to pay the same price today? Or don't I have the kind of faith that moves men to pay that price for liberty? All of us who have received the heritage of the Reformation ought to consider more seriously than ever before that we cannot keep it unless we have the faith that produced it. Our greatest peril today is not the threat of Communism, but rather the tragic departure from the kind of Christian faith that gave birth to our freedoms. We cannot defeat Communism, no matter how strong we are in military resources, unless we have the spiritual resources of historic Christianity as it was expressed in the Reformation.

Arnold Toynbee, the eminent contemporary historian, may yet be proved wrong in some of his judgments about the relationship between religion and civilization, but he is obviously quite right when he says that religion is not merely a guide or inspiration to civilization, but rather its very reason for being. To put it in strictly Christian terms, our civilization with its freedoms has no good reason for continued existence if it repudiates the Christian faith for which our fathers died.

And, remember, this is not a matter for preachers and politicians to settle. It is not something that can be quickly referred to the leaders of church and state. It is first of all your problem, and mine. We are going to settle it. For it depends ultimately upon our personal response to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our civilization will be Christian, and consequently free, only in the measure that its people are Christian, and consequently free.

Thy love, O Lord, has led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our Ruler, Guardian, Guide, and Stay;
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.
Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine;
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.